

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ABERDEEN AREA TRIBAL CHAIRMEN'S HEALTH BOARD AND ROSEBUD
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE CELEBRATE ASTHMA AWARENESS MONTH**

(Rosebud, South Dakota- April, 2007)- In the United States alone, more than 20 million Americans are reported to suffer from asthma. Six 6 million of these individuals are children, making asthma the most common serious chronic disease of childhood. In addition, asthma accounts for one third of all pediatric emergency room visits, and is a leading cause of school absenteeism accounting for 14.7 million missed school days each year.

In response to these alarming statistics and in an effort to raise public awareness about a disease that affects the lives of so many the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board (AATCHB), Rosebud Indian Health Service (IHS), and Todd County Schools are joining the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to participate in Asthma Awareness Month and World Asthma Day. To commemorate World Asthma Day Rosebud IHS and AATCHB will hold an asthma fair at 8:00 am on May 1st, 2007 at the Rosebud Hospital in Rosebud, South Dakota. Later that day, AATCHB and Todd County North & South elementary schools will sponsor a World Asthma Day Walk at 1:00 pm and 2:15 pm in Mission, South Dakota.

All across the world, events are being held in May as part of Asthma Awareness Month. Join AATCHB, Rosebud IHS, and Todd County Schools as we recognize the importance of becoming educated about this serious illness.

For more information on EPA's Asthma Program and Asthma Awareness Month, log on to www.epa.gov/asthma.